

The Story of the Fairy Fire Spirit

Long ago when only fairy villages dotted the land, the Great Spirit in the Sky sent a Little Fire Spirit to the Enchanted Forest so the Fairies would have a spark to light fires to keep warm at night. Now this Little Fire Spirit decided that she would like to have a place of her own in which to live, so first she gathered some nice, soft, dry grass for a bed. Then after she had made her bed, she gathered many very tiny twigs and built a teepee over this bed to keep out the rain. She was careful to see which way the wind was blowing and made the door into her teepee on that side so she would have a breeze to cool her off. (Fire Spirits are so very warm, you know.)

After the teepee was built, the Little Fire Spirit decided to go looking for the fairies and off she went into the woods.

While she was gone the crafty gnomes came in a ship from far across the sea and the first thing they did was search for a place to live. When they found the lovely hilltop where the Little Fire Spirit had built her teepee, they thought it a perfect place for their cabin. Finding no one in the teepee, they gathered logs (kindling size wood) and built a cabin right around the teepee. They even covered it on top with a log roof. The gnomes already had flints to make fire, so they had no need for a Fire Spirit.

When the Little Fire Spirit returned from the forest, she discovered that her cozy teepee home had been taken over by the gnome cabin. Sadly she looked at the sky and said, "Oh, Great Spirit, what should I do?" The Great Spirit looked down on his little one and said, "Now that the gnomes have come with their flint, they will be able to teach the fairies the secret of fire. It isn't necessary for you to live in the Enchanted Forest any longer, so go into your teepee, lie down on your bed and I will bring you home to live with me."

(Now, use a match to light the dry grass through the teepee door.)

You see, the first little puff of white smoke that you see is the Little Fire Spirit rising before the flame begins. Now she is going up to join the Great Spirit.

This story can be told to your girls as they learn to build a teepee fire with a log cabin around it. As you read the story you will be able to visualize how it may be used effectively. For instance when the Little Fire Spirit gathers dry grass and tiny twigs for her house, you can at the same time demonstrate the method of building the foundation to a teepee fire.